

REMARKS

Claim Rejections

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Asakura (U.S. 5,995,372).

Drawings

Applicant has amended Figure 2, as illustrated on the attached formal drawing, accompanied by a Letter to the Official Draftsperson. Figure 2 is amended to provide antecedent basis for a contact terminal located on both sides of the circuit board as discussed on page 5 of the specification as originally filed with this application. No "new matter" has been added to the original disclosure by the amendments to this figure. It is believed the foregoing proposed amendments obviate the outstanding objections to the drawings. Entry of the corrected formal drawing is respectfully requested.

New Claims

By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled claims 1 and 2 and has added new claims 3 and 4 to this application. It is believed that the new claims specifically set forth each element of Applicant's invention in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, and define subject matter that is patentably distinguishable over the cited prior art.

The new claims are directed toward a memory card structure comprising: a circuit board (50) having at least one contact terminal (51) including a first contact terminal located on a top of a first end thereof; and a case (40) located above and spaced apart from the top of the circuit board, the case having a size smaller than a size of the circuit board, a space (S) being formed between the case and the circuit board, the case being spaced from the first end of the circuit board exposing the first contact terminal.

Other embodiments of the present invention include: the at least one contact terminal includes a second contact terminal located on a bottom of the first end of the circuit board.

The primary reference to Asakura teaches a card-type electronic device including a printed circuit board (2) having a card contact edge (4) located on a bottom of a first end thereof, and a metal panel (3) located above a top surface of the printed circuit board. The metal panel and the card contact edge are located on opposing sides of the printed circuit board. In Asakura if the card contact edge was located on the same side of the metal panel, the metal panel would cover a portion of the contact edge.

Asakura does not teach a circuit board having at least one contact terminal including a first contact terminal located on a top of a first end thereof; the case being spaced from the first end of the circuit board exposing the first contact terminal; nor does Asakura teach the at least one contact terminal includes a second contact terminal located on a bottom of the first end of the circuit board.

It is axiomatic in U.S. patent law that, in order for a reference to anticipate a claimed structure, it must clearly disclose each and every feature of the claimed structure. Applicant submits that it is abundantly clear, as discussed above, that Asakura does not disclose each and every feature of Applicant's new claims and, therefore, could not possibly anticipate these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Absent a specific showing of these features, Asakura cannot be said to anticipate any of Applicant's new claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

It is further submitted that Asakura does not disclose, or suggest any modification of the specifically disclosed structures that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at Applicant's claimed structure. Thus, it is not believed that Asakura renders obvious any of Applicant's new claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Summary

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, it is urged that Applicant's local attorney be contacted at the exchange listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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Application No. 10/766,829

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Enclosed is a new formal drawing of Figure 2, accompanied by a Letter to the Official Draftsperson. Figure 2 has been amended to provide antecedent basis for a contact terminal located on both sides of the circuit board as discussed on page 5 of the specification as originally filed with this application.